

Volume 7, Issue 4

April 2006

# Inside Your Third

*The Newsletter for Norwalk's Third Taxing District*  
2 Second Street • East Norwalk, CT 06855 • 866-9271 • [www.ttd.gov](http://www.ttd.gov)

## Your Commission

David L. Brown  
Chairman

Paul S. Coggin  
Commissioner

Tim Plunkett  
Commissioner

Connie Discala  
Treasurer

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 8th**  
**"Norwalk Reads"**  
**Early Childhood**  
**Development**  
Celebrate the week of the  
child.  
**Story Hour & Free books**  
**9:00 to 11:00 a.m.**  
**Saturday April 8, 2006**  
**Story Hour 9:00 a.m. to**  
**9:45 a.m.**

**April 17th**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**at Van Zilen Hall**  
**51 Van Zant Street**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**April 20th**  
**"Meet the Mayor"**  
**at Van Zilen Hall**  
**51 Van Zant Street**  
**7:00 p.m.**

## 3/22-3/23 Power Outage hits most of Norwalk



Our East Avenue Sub-station on the left and our Rowan Street sub-station on the right. A larger sub-station than these belonging to CL&P located in Broadriver responded to a cable failure and tripped out the circuit breaker.

The electricity that we provide to East Norwalk comes to us on transmission lines that pass through a large electrical substation owned by CL&P on New Canaan Avenue. An equipment failure in that substation interrupted power supply to a large portion of Norwalk and Westport. Our thanks go out to the professionals at CL&P who worked diligently through the night to repair the breakdown and restore service in a timely fashion.

Outages of our entire system are rare and the one on March 22/23 taught us that we need to provide better communications with our customers. You need to know what is happening and when service will be restored so that you can plan how best to cope with a difficult situation. Typically, during the first hour or two of a power outage repair crews are responding, assessing the problem or problems and making the conditions safe for themselves and the public. Only then can they provide an estimate of the repair time. This process takes longer when the problem originates outside our system.

Please know that we recognize your need for information and we will make every effort to provide timely updates to you. To this end, we have arranged with radio station WNLK 1350 AM or WSTC 1400 AM to broadcast updates on major power problems in East Norwalk. Our phone lines will be busy when the lights first go out, and the bigger the problem the more persistent you may need to be to reach our office.

Even though power outages are unusual it is best to be prepared. A flashlight with fresh batteries and a battery-powered radio are basics. Cell phones and wired telephones will work without utility power but portable phones will not work. When the lights first go out, wait a few minutes to see if they will come back on. Even the light from your cell phone may be enough to help you locate your flashlight. Check to see if your neighbors have lights to determine if the problem may be in your home. Call us at 866-9271 to report the outage. If our lines are busy it is likely that others are also reporting the outage. We will respond promptly.

**Visit our webpage at [www.ttd.gov](http://www.ttd.gov) for agendas and minutes**

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## 8 Ways to Save Energy and Money

### Adjust Your Thermostat to Savings

1. Lowering your home's thermostat just 3 degrees from 75° to 72° will cut your heating costs by about 10%. And lowering from 72° to 62° each night while you sleep can reduce your monthly heating bills by another 10%.
2. Make sure to lower your thermostats if you are leaving your home for any period of time. You will use much less energy to warm your home upon your return then to keep it heated while you're away.
3. Install a programmable thermostat to automatically adjust your home's thermostat at night or when you are away at work. You'll save up to \$100 in just the first year, and you'll still always awake or return a warm, comfortable home.
4. Heating your whole bedroom is the most expensive way to stay warm all night. Consider using flannel sheets, a down or plump fiber-fill comforter, and an electric mattress pad or blanket to stay comfortable at night.

### Four More Ways to Save

5. Before you turn up the thermostat, turn on your kettle. Drinking something warm really does help to warm up your body.
6. That half-empty extra refrigerator in the garage or basement is a real energy waster. Is it worth an extra \$15/month or more to keep leftovers and beverages cold?
7. Even on the coldest day of the year, an engine block heater only takes 1 1/2 hours to warm your engine. If you currently use a block heater 10 hours a night, adding an inexpensive timer can save you \$20 month on your electric bill.
8. Check the age and condition of your major appliances, especially the refrigerator. New *Energy Star* appliances can save you a lot of money. (\$60/year for a fridge, \$110/year for a clothes washer) The Third Taxing District Electric Department may be offering rebates on some major appliances in the near future. Call the office at 866-9271 for details.

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### Simon Sumberg Chosen as New District Counsel

Attorney Simon Sumberg was chosen unanimously by the Third Taxing Commission to replace recently resigned District Counsel Attorney Larry Dennin. Attorney Sumberg was selected from a pool of seven law firms that responded to a broadcast for a Municipal Attorney.

Attorney Sumberg has been an attorney for over 35 years. For thirty of those years, he has practiced in Norwalk. He brings a host of experience to cover the legal needs of the Third Taxing District. Most recently, he has served as the City's Assistant Corporation Counsel and, of course, is familiar with the City's legal process. He also brings to the table extensive real estate and zoning law experience.

We look forward to many years with Simon at our legal helm and say thank you to Attorney Dennin for his many years of dedicated service.

### Library Happenings

**Norwalk Reads  
Early Childhood Development  
celebrate the week of the child.**

Story Hour & Free books  
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday April 8, 2006  
Story Hour 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

### Meet The Mayor

Thursday April 20, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.  
at the East Norwalk Library  
Presented by East Norwalk  
Improvement Association and East  
Norwalk Improvement Association